

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An apparatus comprising:

[[An]] an integral molded part of a plastic material for the analysis and preparation of substances,
the apparatus having at least one surface region and an interior region,
wherein said at least one surface region [[by]] is an open-pore three dimensional network.

2. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said interior region has no open pores.

3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The apparatus according to claim 1 or claim 2 wherein said plastic material is selected from the group consisting of polyamides, polysulfones, polyesters, polycarbonates and as copolymers and mixtures thereof.

4. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The apparatus according to claim 1 wherein at least one reactant is bound to at least a part of said at least one surface region.

5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said reactant is selected from the group consisting of proteins, nucleic acids, carbohydrates, lipids, affinity-ligands and effectors of enzymes.

6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The apparatus according to claim 4 or claim 5 wherein said reactant is bound through a reactive side chain of said plastic material.

7. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The apparatus according to claim 1 wherein said molded part is at least one of a pipette tip, microtitration plate, piece of flexible tubing, rod, single or multiple vessel, immersed body sphere or plate.

8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A process for the preparation of an integral molded part of a plastic material, the molded part having at least one surface region and an interior region, the process comprising: partially dissolving the plastic material on at least a part of the at least one surface region to form an open-pore surface region which is a three-dimensional network.

9. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED). The process according to claim 8, further comprising chemically activating the surface region before, simultaneously with or after partially dissolving the surface region.

10. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An integral molded part of a plastic material having at least one surface region and having an interior region, the surface region obtainable by a process comprising: partially dissolving the plastic material on at least a part of the at least one surface region to form an open-pore surface region which is a three-dimensional network.

11-13. (CANCELED)

14. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A process using an integral molded part, the process comprising:
analyzing or preparing a biological substance using the integral molded part, the integral molded part formed of a plastic material having at least one surface region and an interior region, wherein the at least one surface region is an open-pore three-dimensional network, and wherein the substance is analyzed by contacting the substance with at least one reactant bound to at least a portion of the integral molded part.

15. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The process according to claim 14, wherein analyzing the substance further comprises identifying and quantifying an analyte.

16. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The process according to claim 15, wherein identifying and quantifying an analyte further comprises determining a specific concentration of the analyte.

17. (CANCELED)

18. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The process according to claim 19 [[17]], wherein modifying an analyte in a sample further comprises removing at least one of a phosphate, sugar or fatty acid moiety from the sample.

19. (NEW) A process using an integral molded part, the process comprising:
preparing a substance using the integral molded part, the integral molded part formed of a plastic material having at least one surface region and an interior region, wherein the at least one surface region is an open-pore three-dimensional network, wherein the substance is prepared by contacting the substance with at least one surface region which has been activated, and wherein preparing the substance further comprises at least one of enriching a substance in a sample, depleting an interfering substance in a sample, or modifying an analyte in a sample.